



93-0004843

Copied to All  
Board Members

**The Secretary of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

August 31, 1993

The Honorable John T. Conway  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On July 19, 1993, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board forwarded to the Department of Energy their Recommendation 93-5 which deals with Hanford Waste Tanks Characterization Studies. Recommendation 93-5 is accepted by the Department.

The Department will undertake a comprehensive reexamination and restructuring of the tanks' characterization effort and integrate the characterization effort into the systems engineering effort for the Tank Waste Remediation System.

We are developing an Implementation Plan to address the Board's recommendations, including the recommended target dates for accomplishment of specific actions. This Plan will set forth a technically sound, integrated program, while incorporating the characterization needs of retrieval, treatment, waste storage, and the Department's legal and regulatory obligations. The Implementation Plan will provide specific milestones and dates for accomplishing the major tasks to achieve the Board's recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hazel R. O'Leary", is written over the typed name.

Hazel R. O'Leary